Health care for all in Uttaranchal

662. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target for taking health care to all parts of Uttaranchal has been fixed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that CII's Health Committee and some other important Heart Institutes has recommended some measures in this behalf; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action Government have proposed to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Government has lanuched the National Rural Health Mission in April, 2005 for providing effective healthcare to the rural population through out the country with special focus on 18 States with poor health indicators and weak health infrastructure. The Mission adopts a synergistic approach by relating health to determinants of good health and the main objective is to provide accessible, affordable and accountable healthcare especially to the poor and vulnerable sections. It is an articulation of the commitment of the Government to raise public spending on Health from 0.9% of GDP to 2-3% of GDP over the next five years. Under the strategy of NRHM, the gaps in the existing scenario of rural health care is to be addressed through involvement of the community, the panchayati raj institutions and other non-governmental ogranizations. An accredited social health activist will act as a link between the community and the health care system. The State of Uttaranchal has been included in the list of high focused 18 States.

(c) and (d) The CII National Committee on Health Care commissioned Mckinsey and Company for a study to define the way forward for healthcare. This study has also reiterated the need for higher levels of investment as already contained in the National Health Policy 2002 and the National Common Minimum Programme to meet the increased demands of the Health Sector. In fact recognizing the gap in the provision of health care services against the existing demand, efforts have been made to enhance the allocations under Health particularly with the launch of the National Rural Health Mission.